

EXHIBIT E



EMILY RYO
Professor of Law and Sociology

November 12, 2019

USCIS FOIA/PA Appeals Office
Freedom of Information Act Appeal
P.O. Box 648010
Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010
uscis.foia@uscis.dhs.gov

RE: FOIA Appeal -- Control Number COW2019501425

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter constitutes an appeal under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6). I received an acknowledgment letter from the USCIS dated October 18, 2019, indicating that my fee waiver request has been denied. I am appealing that denial decision.

As I stated in my records request letter, I am an academic researcher at the University of Southern California, which qualifies as an "educational institution" within the meaning of FOIA, 6 C.F.R. § 5.11(b)(4) (2012) (defining "educational institution" as "an institution of undergraduate higher education [or] an institution of graduate higher education...that operates a program of scholarly research."). Furthermore, the information requested is not sought for a commercial purpose. I seek the information for my scholarly research on the U.S. immigration system. A primary goal of my scholarly research is to advance public understanding of policy-relevant social scientific knowledge. A summary of my scholarship can be found here: <http://weblaw.usc.edu/contact/contactInfo.cfm?detailID=71271>. I have filed requests under the Freedom of Request Act in the past and have never been denied a fee waiver by any government agency. I am requesting a reconsideration of my fee waiver request for the above-stated reasons.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 650-248-3855 or via e-mail at eryo@law.usc.edu. Thank you in advance for your timely consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emily Ryo".

Emily Ryo, JD, PhD
Professor of Law & Sociology
USC Gould School of Law

